

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 16-28 and 30-42 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicant amends Claims 16, 18, 21, 22, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36, and 42 and cancels Claims 15 and 29.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that Claims 16, 17, 21-27, 30, 31, and 35-41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 15, 18, 19, 28, 29, 32, 33, and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ruby et al. (U.S. 6,472,954). Claims 20 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruby et al.

Allowable Claims 16, 21, 22 have been amended to include all of the features of base Claim 15, Claims 30, 35, and 36 have been amended to include all of the features of base Claim 29, Claims 18 and 28 have been amended to depend on Claim 16, Claims 32 and 42 have been amended to depend on Claim 30, and Claims 15 and 29 have been canceled.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 15 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ruby et al. is moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 16, 21, 22, 30, 35, and 36 are allowable as indicated by the Examiner. Claims 17-20, 23-28, 31-34, and 37-42 depend upon Claims 16, 22, 30, and 36, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that Claims 16, 22, 30, and 36 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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